REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 41-49 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claim 8 has been amended and new claims 41-49 have been added as shown on pp. 2-11 of the Reply.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I.   Rejection of Claims 1-11 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kalagnanam, *et al.* (U.S. 6,873,967). It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn for at least the following reason. Kalagnanam, *et al.* does not teach or suggest each and every limitation as recited in the subject claims.

> A single prior art reference anticipates a patent claim only if it expressly or inherently describes each and every limitation set forth in the patent claim. *Trintec Industries, Inc. v. Top-U.S.A. Corp.,* 295 F.3d 1292, 63 USPQ2d 1597 (Fed. Cir. 2002); *See Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California,* 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.,* 868 F.2d 1226, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

The subject invention generally relates to creating an electronic shopping list (*e.g.*, a list of references to items) for a user and utilizing this list to purchase items for the user over the Internet (*See* Application, p.2, ll.9-11). The systems and methods of the present invention provide a user interface that enables the user to create a personalized list of references to items (*e.g.*, offers, product categories, products from merchants, products from manufacturers...) by electronically selecting and adding such items to their list. (*See* Application, p.2, ll.11-17). This list of references, as well as other users' lists, is stored within an item list database (*See* Application, p.2, ll.17-18) and information related to items is stored within an item database(s) (*See* Application, p.6, ll.7-17). In general, an owner of an item list or a customer who intends on purchasing an item for this owner can request the stored list. On request, an interface component utilizes item references from the stored list to extract related item data from the item database

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and employs the extracted data to present a list of items to a requester including the current information from the item database. (*See* Application, p.7, ll.5-10).

Independent claim 1 recites *an item database holding information with respect to items* and *an item list database that stores an item list that includes a reference to at least one item associated with the information stored in the item database*. Claim 1 also recites an interface component that obtains an item reference from the item list database in response to a request to display the item and utilizes the reference as a key into the item database to retrieve current data corresponding to the referenced item from the item database. The retrieved data is utilized to display the item and associated information to the requester. Consequently, the requester is presented with a list of items that is dynamically updated to reflect changes in the underlying item database. Kalagnanam, *et al.* does not describe, teach or suggest such claimed aspects. Kalagnanam, *et al.* is directed to a system for generating one or more shopping lists from an online catalog stored in a product database based upon a shopper's input. (Col. 5, ll. 16-31). Assuming for the sake of argument that the product database and compiled shopping lists described in Kalagnanam, *et al.* constitute a database holding information with respect to items and an item list database, Kalagnanam, *et al.* still fails to disclose or suggest an interface component that utilizes a reference from the item list database as a key into the item database to retrieve and display current item information from the item database.

Kalagnanam, *et al.* is directed to a system for generating and compiling shopping lists that satisfy certain constraints. An electronic shopping assistant receives input from a shopper and compiles one or more shopping lists. The shopping lists are generated by searching an online product catalog on a product database. *There is no indication that the shopping lists include references to items, where the references are used as keys to the product database.* Assuming for the sake of argument that the electronic shopping assistant constitutes an interface component, the electronic shopping assistant uses shopper inputs to search the product database and extract data when creating the shopping lists. There is no suggestion that the electronic shopping assistant extracts data from the product database during the display of the shopping lists to the shoppers. In Kalagnanam, *et al.* shoppers can browse the lists of recommended products and they can browse the online catalog directly. However, Kalagnanam, *et al.* fails to disclose the extraction of data from the online catalog on the product database in order to display a dynamically updated shopping list. (Col. 11, ll. 5-7).

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The use of references stored in an item list to extract information from an item database when displaying an item provides several advantages. By providing references to items in the item database rather than simply copying the data into the item list database, the system ensures that the displayed item information is current. Modifications to the item database will be automatically reflected when the item lists are displayed to users. For example, if the price of an item is increased in an item database, the increased price will be automatically retrieved from the information database when item lists are displayed to users without requiring a separate update of effected item lists. In contrast, in the system described in Kalagnanam, *et al.* when information contained in the shopping list is modified after the shopping list is generated, the information displayed to users when the shopping list is presented may be incorrect. In addition, storing references rather than duplicating data from the information databases can reduce overhead.

Claim 2 recites the *interface component degrades the display of the item as records are removed from the item database*. As disclosed in the subject application, when an item in a user's item list is removed from the item database, the data can be degraded to provide a user with an alternate item from the database and/or another database, such as the best available item. Such degrading can provide a user with a link to a merchant's web site or to other items. (*See* application, p. 7, ll. 12-24). Kalagnanam, *et al.* does not discuss degrading information contained in an online catalog or the generated shopping lists. Accordingly, Kalagnanam, *et al.* does not teach or suggest degrading items on a list when the items are removed from the database, as recited in the subject claim.

Claim 8 recites *a component that links an infrastructure of the item list system to a remote site, the item list system appears to reside on the remote site*. As disclosed in the subject application, a remote merchant site can be linked to a shopping portal with a database that stores items from a plurality of merchants. When a user at the remote merchant site requests to view items, the items can be filtered such that only items associated with the remote site are returned to the user. Thus, only products from the remote merchant can be added to the item list through the merchant's site. (*See* application, p.14, ll. 10-26). Kalagnanam, *et al.* does not teach or suggest a component that links an item list infrastructure to a remote site such that it appears to a user that the item list resides at the remote site when it does not. Rather, Kalagnanam, *et al.*

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discloses accessing a set of shopping lists using an electronic shopping assistant. (Col. 6, ll. 27-30).

In addition, claims 2-11 depend from claim 1. As discussed *supra*, Kalagnanam, *et al.* does not teach or suggest all limitations of claim 1. For at least these reasons, the rejection to claims 1-11 should be withdrawn.
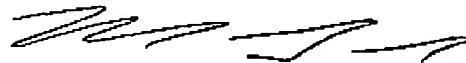
CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP151US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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